

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 026651
ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 NSF-02 ACDA-12 DLOS-09
CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /052 R

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ARA/MEX - K. MCKUNE
-----117858 011948Z /41

R 011724Z PEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS STATE 026651

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TOCY, MX

SUBJECT: R/V ALPHA HELIX CLEARANCE REQUEST, 22 MAY -
8 JUNE 1978

1. R/V ALPHA HELIX, A PRIVATE VESSEL OPERATED BY SCRIPPS INSTITUTE OF OCEANOGRAPHY AND FUNDED BY THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION, IS PLANNING TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN MEXICAN WATERS DURING THE PERIOD 22 MAY - 8 JUNE 1978. THE PURPOSE OF THE RESEARCH IS TO EVALUATE BIOLOGICAL AND BIOCHEMICAL ASPECTS OF COMPOUNDS PRODUCED BY MARINE BIOTA AS DEFENSIVE AGENTS. PARTICULAR ATTENTION WILL BE GIVEN TO THE PRODUCTION OF HALOGEN-CONTAINING COMPOUNDS BY VARIOUS SPECIES OF RED SEAWEEDS (RHODOPHYTA). COLLECTIONS OF KNOWN HALOGENATING RED ALGAE, SUCH AS PLOCAMIIUM, LAURENCIA AND OCHTODES WILL BE MADE. ALGAL TAXONOMISTS WILL EXPLORE UNKNOWN SPECIES OF RED ALGAE IN AN ATTEMPT TO EXPAND THIS LIST. SEVERAL PROJECTS WILL COMPLEMENT THE RESEARCH ON RED ALGAL DEFENSIVE CHEMISTRY. THESE PROJECTS INCLUDE THE EXPLORA-
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TION OF BROWN SEAWEEDS FOR TOXIC NON-HALOGENATED METABOLITES AND THE DEFENSIVE CHEMISTRY OF MARINE OPISTHOBRANCHS. EMPHASIS HERE WILL LIE IN THE COLLECTION OF ALGAE OF THE FAMILY DICTYOTACEAE (PHAEOPHYTA) AND OPISTHOBRANCHS OF THE FAMILY ONCHIDACEAE.

2. RESEARCH, WHICH ONLY INVOLVES USE OF SCUBA GEAR FOR COLLECTION PURPOSES, WILL BE CONDUCTED AT THE ISLANDS OF GUADALUPE, CLARION, SOCORRO, BENEDICTO, AND TRES MARIAS, AS WELL AS THREE COASTAL LOCATIONS BETWEEN MAZATLAN AND ACAPULCO. THE ALPHA HELIX WILL BE ANCHORED WHILE THE DIVING TAKES PLACE; TWO ZODIACS (SMALL BOATS) WILL BE USED IN THE DIVING OPERATION. A DETAILED CHART SHOWING THE SHIP'S TRACK, POSITIONS OF THE ANCHORAGES, AND A SCHEDULE IS BEING POUCHED.

3. THE CHIEF SCIENTIST IS DR. WILLIAM H. FENICAL OF SCRIPPS AND SHIP'S CAPTAIN IS ROBERT C. NEWBEGIN. THERE IS A CREW OF 12 AND SCIENTIFIC PARTY OF 12. BERTHS ARE AVAILABLE FOR TWO MEXICAN PARTICIPANTS AND ALL DATA RESULTS WILL BE FREELY SHARED.

4. ALPHA HELIX IS 294 GROSS TONS, 133 FT. LONG, AND HAS A 12 FT. DRAFT. RADIO CALL SIGN IS KLFK AND SHIP MONITORS 2182 KHZ AND CHANNEL 16 WHILE UNDERWAY.

5. ACTION: EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO SEEK CLEARANCE FOR ALPHA HELIX TO CONDUCT MARINE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN MEXICAN TERRITORIAL WATERS DURING PERIOD 22 MAY - 8 JUNE 1978. A WRITTEN COPY OF GOM APPROVAL IS REQUESTED, IN SUFFICIENT TIME TO PROVIDE CAPTAIN OF VESSEL WITH A COPY. VANCE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Draft Date: 01 feb 1978
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: n/a
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Expiration:
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From: STATE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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